COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS.

COUNCIL CHAMBER, August 6th, 1883.

The Board of Aldermen met last night in the City Hall. Present, Mayor Meredith in the chair, Ald. Birrell, Hunt, Hyman, O'Meara, Cowan, Skinner, Browne, Stringer, Boyd, Moore, and A. S. Abbott, City Clerk.

The minutes of last meeting were adopted with a slight amendment.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Jas. Ardell—Complaining that the G. T. R. had exceeded their privileges in putting cars on old oil sidings, and so blocking up certain streets. No. 3.

Phillip B. Richards—Asking remission of taxes. No. 1.

Women's Christian Temperance Union — Asking permission to collect a five cent fee at the band concert on Wednesday night, 15th inst., in Victoria Park. Granted.

John Bermy—Claim for $3, owing to damages to treeguards. No. 2.

Feltham Cricket Club—Complaining that the site for playing on the Exhibition Grounds had been spoiled by Barnum's show. No. 2, with power.

D. McKenzie—Asking that back rent ($5 75) due on market stall be allowed him, owing to illness. No. 1.

J. L. Williams—Letter in reference to back taxes. No. 1, with power.

London Skating Rink Co.—Complaining that Queen's Avenue, south side, needed a gas lamp between Wellington and Waterloo. No. 3.

Chas. B. Reed—Asking that he be allowed to retain a frame stable which he has erected on his premises. No. 3.

A. O. Jeffrey—Asking that the Council order the removal of a porch on that side of the Revere block facing King street. No. 2.

F. C. Wheeler and five others—Petition that a sewer be not constructed on Ridout street between York and King. No. 2.

Brotherhood of Telegraphers—Petition for use of Victoria Park for Friday night, to hold a band concert in aid of the strike. Granted.

Joseph Coughlin and others—Asking for a tile sewer on Maitland street north of Carling. No. 2.

J. L. Williams—Asking reduction in taxes for 1882. No. 1.

D. H. Parry, Secretary pro tem. Board Water Commissioners—Asking that the Council fix the remuneration to be allowed Mr. Jas. M Cousins for superintending waterworks repairs.

Ald. Boyd moved, seconded by Ald. Hunt, that this Board recognize the right of Mr. Cousins to remuneration for services as superintendent, and that the question of fixing the amount be referred to No. 1 Committee. Carried.

ACCOUNTS.

Catholic Record, advertising, $10; Free Press, $319 39, Telegraph Herald, $9 60. No. 1.

SALVATION ARMY.

Captain Hooper and Private Parsons, of the Salvation Army, appeared, asking that they be granted the privilege of playing their drums upon the public streets.

Ald. Cowan introduced a resolution designed to grant the privileges asked, without rescinding the by-law under which recent convictions were made.

Ald. Cowan appealed to the Council, and there was a great difference of opinion as to the interpretation of the by-law given by the Police Magistrate. He finally consented to introduce his resolution in the following form, seconded by Ald. Boyd: "That the by-law be so amended as requested in consideration of the Salvation Army having declared their intention not to obstruct the sidewalks, beat their drums within the barracks, or in any way annoy persons living in the neighborhood, this Council grant the spirit of the petition by removing all restriction to their mode of worship, that they and all other religious bodies be allowed to march in procession, beat their drums and tambourines and play any musical instrument on the Market Square or on any of the streets within the municipality."

Ald. Hyman moved, and Ald. Birrell seconded, in amendment, that the matter be referred to a special committee, consisting of the following members, to report at next meeting: Ald. Birrell, Cowan, Boyd and Hyman.

Ald. Boyd moved in amendment to the amendment, seconded by Ald. Cowan, That a special committee, consisting of the following, be appointed to consider the petition of the Salvation Army: Ald. Birrell, Hyman, Cowan, Skinner and Boyd.

Ald. Hyman then withdrew his amendment in favor of that of Ald. Boyd, which was carried.

SIGNS AND AWNINGS.

A large deputation appeared in reference to the sign by law.

Mr. D. Regan was not aware that any very large number of citizens had asked to have the signs removed. He said signs were necessary to retail dealers, and the signs now used did not obstruct the view and were not a nuisance. Why leave up telephone and telegraph poles, bay windows, balconies, etc.? He knew of no such by-law as this in any other city in the Province. He said some proposed asking the intervention of Sir John Macdonald, as it was clearly an interference with certain business privileges. He said signs and awnings should be kept up to a certain height.

Mr. T. F. Kingsmill thought the Council were arbitrary, unjust and invading vested rights. There was no precedent for their action.

Wm. Stevely said his sign cost him a good deal and interfered with no one. He said the business men were the backbone of the city and they should be encouraged. This by-law, if carried out, would injury many citizens who paid heavy taxes.

A. B. Powell said he could not carry on his business without an awning.

The sign and awning question was then referred to No. Two Committee, and in the meantime the notices issued are not to go into effect until the next Council meeting.

REPORT NO. THREE COMMITTEE.

By Ald. Hunt, chairman: 1, That the petition of Rev. J. W. Sutton be fyled. 2, That the account for 18 from P. O. Home be paid. 3, Payment of Fire Department accounts as follows: Pay roll, $323 31; A. Tucker, services, $9 80; H. C. Smith, fodder, $27 90. Total, $361 01. 4, That the Gas Company's account for lighting streets, $1.368 23, be paid. 5, Payment of the following Hospital accounts: Pay roll July, $74 75; Jas. Perkins, meat, $100 10; S. Cooper, milk, $37 83; John Ranahan, bread, $26 45; W T. Strong, drugs, $65 69; D. B. Birch, straw, $12 18; J. G. Dodds & Sons, $52 50; Bell Telephone Company, rent, $22 50; T. E. O'Callaghan, groceries, $170 35. Total, $562 35. Adopted.

REPORT NO. ONE COMMITTEE.

By Ald. Hyman, Chairman—1, Payment of the following accounts: Hospital, $562 35; Fire Department, $361 01, relief expenses, $98 68; printing, $140 27, Gas Co., $522 75; A. S. Murray, $4 25; total, $1,689 31; 2, That the following rebates be allowed on sewer rates to property owners on Wellington street: Ed. Winder, $4 40; A Carrothers, $2 40; John Croden, $3 85; Chas. J. Anderson, $3 60, A. Farquhar, $2 40; 3, No action re the petitions of D. Nolan, Geo. E. Evans and Wm. Andy, the latter not being charged for any sewer; 4, that the petitions of Sarah Tweedy and Widow Campbell, for extension of time to pay 1882 taxes, be allowed by extending the time for payment until August 13; 5, That the petitions of John Ferguson, for remission of income tax, and J. W Johnston, statute labor, be fyled; 6, that the petition of Geo. Pritchard, for income tax, 1882, be fyled; 7, That the petition of John Peddick for extension of time for payment of taxes for 1882, and also the privilege of monthly payments, be filed; 8, That the petition of E. B. Reid, for Mrs. L. Lawrason, for rebate on income tax of the late L. Lawrason, deceased, be granted by allowing a rebate of half the tax; 9, That the petition of Alex. Harvey for reduction of taxes of two unfinished houses on Talbot street be not granted; 10, That the petition of J. B. Land for remission of taxes of 1882, on the plea of sickness, be granted; 11, That the petition of A. Pendergast for extension of time for payment of 1882 taxes be granted, by allowing the taxes of that year to be charged against the land; 12, Progress on the communications of D. G. McKenzie, county clerk, and John A. Roe, secretary of the firemen's tournament; 13, Your committee regret that unforeseen circumstances have caused delay in preparing the estimates for the year 1883

Taken up clause by clause: Clauses 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 passed, and 6 read and moved for adoption.

Ald. Skinner and Ald. Boyd—An amendment that the clause be referred back to committee. Carried.

Balance of report adopted.

REPORT NO. 2 COMMITTEE.

By Ald. Browne, chairman: 1. Payment of accounts and pay rolls, amounting to $1,072 03; 2, Petition of Geo. Evans and others, re Wellington street sewer assessment, was referred to No. 1 Committee; 3, That the sum of $300 be paid by the Central Relief Committee to Mr. A. Massie, in full for damages done to his boats during the recent flood; 4, Progress re the petition of Wm. Saunders and others, to have Kensington bridge rebuilt, and your committee ask power to act in conjunction with the committee from the County Council, and under instructions from this Council; 5, That the petition of the Salvation Army be referred to the Council. 6, The following tenders were accepted by your committee: James Johnston, Richmond street stone culvert, $3,836; Isaac Crouse, Adelaide street pile culvert, $787 A tender of $1,664 was received from Mr. Johnston to erect a pile culvert across Richmond street. For the purpose of facilitating the work above mentioned, that this Council instruct your committee with power to deal with the Proof Line Co. and the London East Council in the matter.

Taken up clause by clause: clauses 1, 2, 3, 4 passed.

Ald. Birrell moved, and Ald. Browne seconded, that No. 2 Committee be empowered to proceed and rebuild Kensington bridge, this Council to contribute fifty per cent. of the cost, and in case the county refuse to accept these terms that the matter be referred to arbitration.

Ald. O'Meara moved in amendment, seconded by Ald. Cowan, that the resolution include Oxford street bridge, the Committee to report on this point.

Ald. O'Meara's amendment was lost on the following division: Yeas, Ald. O'Meara and Cowan: nays, balance of the committee.

The motion was carried.

Moved by Ald. Cowan, seconded by Ald. O'Meara, that steps be taken to preserve the material of the Oxford street bridge in the river, and, if necessary, secure the services of an engineer from the Hamilton Bridge Co. Carried.

The last clause in the report was adopted, with the understanding that the committee will make the best possible arrangement with the Proof Line Road Co.

Ald. Hyman urged that the Chairman of No. Two Committee bring in the proposed expenditure in the Board of Works Department as soon as possible, in order that the estimates for the year might be prepared.

THE COW BY-LAW.

A petition was read asking that the cow by-law be framed so as to extend no further north than Grosvenor street.

Ald. O'Meara and Hyman—Motion that the petition be granted.

Ald. Hunt and Birrell—An amendment that the petition be fyled. Carried on the following division: Yeas, Ald. Birrell, Hunt, Skinner, Browne, Stringer and Moore; nays, Hyman, O'Meara, Cowan and Boyd.

Ald. Cowan gave notice that at next meeting he would move for the repeal of the cow by-law.

Adjourned for two weeks.